

My wife and I [REDACTED], a residential property situated [REDACTED], Chignal St James. The property is approximately 160 metres north of the proposed line of pylons and a crossing point for the haul road. Two plots of land on the property are the subject of compulsory acquisition. Firstly, a narrow strip of land forming the roadside margin which has been aggregated with other land to form plot F-6/24. Secondly, an area of approximately 72 sq metres contained within the boundary of the property, forming plot F-6/27. We wish to draw the examiners attention to the response that was given to our submission to what is now Document 8.27 "Response to Category 1 and 2 Affected Persons Objections". We were indexed as AP 205 and AP 206 in this document and we provide a copy of the relevant sections of the reply below for reference.

In summary, the response simultaneously claims that :

- 1) No rights are being sought over our property
- 2) That the parts of our property included in plots F-6/24 and F-6/27 comprise a section of public highway over which temporary rights are sought
- 3) The applicant is seeking to obtain permanent Class 4 rights of access both for themselves and for UKPN.
- 4) The plots may only have been included in the DCO boundary in error due to a discrepancy in the sources the applicant used for land reference.

This is incoherent. The Book of Reference states that permanent rights of access are being applied for, yet since the applicant chose not to proceed with negotiation we were unable to ascertain the rationale for a claim of permanent rights and denied the opportunity to explore alternative solutions. This is greatly detrimental to our interests and we believe that, given the applicant is neither able to guarantee the plots have been properly included within the DCO nor to explain what the purpose of inclusion could be that they should be removed from the application and references to them deleted in the Book of Reference.

Land Rights Sought

The Applicant is seeking to acquire the following permanent rights for National Grid over land in which this Affected Person holds an interest: Class 4 (overhead line and underground cable infrastructure). The Applicant is also seeking to acquire the following permanent rights for UKPN over land in which this Affected Person holds an interest: Class 4 (overhead line and underground cable infrastructure). The Applicant can confirm that the affected plots refer to a section of public highway which the Applicant is seeking temporary rights over to apply a visibility splay to ensure safe design of the cross over bellmouths for the haul road. The Applicant is aware of a discrepancy between the Land Registry title plan, the Ordnance Survey mapping and the adopted highway boundary. It appears that the AP may have inadvertently become an affected person in relation to certain plots as a result of this discrepancy, and the Applicant has no plan to access the AP's private land in this location. Where existing hedgerows or trees impact on the proposed visibility splay, these will be cut back or removed in order to provide compliant and safe visibility at the crossover.

Consolidated Response

The Applicant can confirm that initial Heads of Terms (Version 1) were issued in October 2025. Version 2 of the Heads of Terms was not issued as, following further assessment of the Affected Person's interest, the Applicant determined that no land rights were required from this Affected Person. Accordingly, no further Heads of Terms negotiations were necessary, and no formal Heads of Terms meeting has been held. The Applicant notes that, whilst no rights are being sought from this Affected Person, the Applicant is happy to engage further on any concerns relating to the Project. A number of APs have objected, often in general terms, to the Applicant's request to seek authorisation for powers of compulsory acquisition ("CA") and temporary possession ("TP").